

REMARKS

With the cancellation of claim 18 herein, claims 1 to 17 are pending in the present application with claims 12, 13, 16 and 17 withdrawn from consideration. In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, it is respectfully submitted that all of the presently pending claims are allowable, and reconsideration is respectfully requested.

I. Objection to the Drawings

The Office Action objects to the drawings under 37 C.F.R. 1.83(a) as it is alleged that a conical guideway is not presented

Applicants have amended the drawings such that a conical guideway is presented. Applicants respectfully submit that no new matter has been entered through this amendment to the drawings. Applicant has added new Figure 3 to illustrate the conical guideway. The specification has also been amended to note Figure 3. As all aspects of the claims are presented in the drawings, Applicants respectfully submit that the drawings are fully consistent with 37 C.F.R. 1.83(a) and reconsideration is respectfully requested..

II. Rejection of Claims 1 to 3 and 18 Under 35 U.S.C. 103(a)

Claims 1 to 3 and 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious to Great Britain 200,733 ("Drescher"). Applicants respectfully submit that Drescher does not render obvious claims 1 to 3 and 18 for the following reasons.

Claim 1 relates to a floor-mopping device. Claim 1 recites a handle having a longitudinal axis and a supporting body to which the handle is connected, the supporting body being rotatable about the longitudinal axis of the handle. Claim 1 also recites at least one flexible mopping element suspended from the supporting body in pendulum fashion, and means for suppressing canting of the supporting body relative to the handle. Claim 1 has been amended such that the means for suppressing canting of the supporting body relative to the handle includes at least one of a counterstop and a handlestop. Support for the amendment may be found, for example, in Figure 1.

Drescher allegedly relates to a center construction for a mop head. Drescher provides a flange E, into which fits a soft rustless double pronged nail A. The nail A extends down from the flange through a fabric head F and through a clamp washer C. Drescher is limited to providing a "face" which is arranged to swivel on a mop handle. Drescher does not mention,

disclose or suggest, handlestops or counterstops. Dresher simply provides that handle D is screwed to flange E.

Dresher does not disclose or suggest the required elements of amended claim 1.

Claims 2 and 3 depend from claim 1 and therefore include all of the features of amended claim 1. Applicants respectfully submit that Drescher does not render obvious claims 2 and 3 for at least the reasons presented above in relation to amended claim 1.

Claim 18 has been canceled, rendering the rejection to this claim moot. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection to claim 18.

III. Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 4 to 11 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants have amended claims 4 to 11 such that these claims are either in independent form or depend from an allowable claim placed in independent form. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the objections to claims 4 to 11.

Applicants thank the Examiner for acknowledging that claim 14 is allowable.

IV. Conclusion

It is therefore respectfully submitted that all of the presently pending elected claims are allowable. All issues raised by the Examiner having been addressed, an early and favorable action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

KENYON & KENYON

Dated: November 4, 2003

By: 

Richard M. Rosati
Reg. No. 31,792

One Broadway
New York, New York 10004
(212) 425-7200

CUSTOMER NO. 26646